WHEREAS: Addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth, and families is fundamental to building the health, resilience, and future of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: Children and youth may have or be at risk of developing mental health conditions requiring therapeutic support and clinical services; and

WHEREAS: For 25 years, state and local agencies have partnered to implement the Minnesota Comprehensive Children’s Mental Health Act to create a mental health system that more effectively and efficiently cares for the mental health needs of children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS: The need for comprehensive, coordinated, mental health services for children, youth, and families places a critical responsibility upon our community; and

WHEREAS: It is appropriate and necessary to take a day to focus our thoughts and actions on juvenile mental health and the important role it plays in the development and well-being of our youth; and

WHEREAS: The Minnesota Department of Human Services, in its policy and planning roles, supports effectively caring for the mental health needs of children, youth, and families in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, May 8, 2014, as:

CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Minnesota, and urge all to unite in observance of exercises, which will acquaint the people of Minnesota with the fundamental necessity of nurturing the social and emotional well-being of children from birth, and providing effective, accessible services and support for children and youth with mental health needs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 5th day of May.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR

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SECRETARY OF STATE